

Appl. No. 10/065,274
Response dated 2005-03-14

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

- [C1] (currently amended) An ultrasonic dental scaler comprising:
- a dental generator unit comprising circuitry for producing a base resonance signal;
 - a handpiece connector for removably coupling a handpiece to the dental generator unit; and
 - a passive circuit element coupled to the circuitry via the handpiece connector to, ~~which adjusts the base~~ adjust a frequency of the base resonance signal to a second frequency, matching a resonant frequency of the handpiece.
- [C2] (original) The ultrasonic dental scaler of claim 1, further comprising:
- a first potentiometer in the dental generator unit for adjusting the power level of the resonance signal.
- [C3] (currently amended) The ultrasonic dental scaler of claim 2, further comprising:
- a power level controlling footswitch; and
 - a footswitch connector for removably coupling ~~the a power level-~~ controlling footswitch to the dental generator unit, wherein the footswitch connector disables the first potentiometer and couples a second potentiometer in the footswitch to the dental generator unit.
- [C4] (currently amended) The ultrasonic dental scaler of claim 2, further comprising:
- a footswitch connector for removably coupling a simple footswitch to the dental generator unit, wherein the simple footswitch connector enables the first potentiometer.

Appl. No. 10/065,274
Response dated 2005-03-14

- [C5] (original) The ultrasonic dental scaler of claim 1, wherein the passive circuit element is a capacitor.
- [C6] (original) The ultrasonic dental scaler of claim 5, wherein the capacitor is in the handpiece connector.
- [C7] (currently amended) The ultrasonic dental scaler of claim 5, wherein the capacitor is in the dental generator unit isolated from the circuitry and wherein the handpiece connector includes wiring to couple the capacitor to the circuitry and thereby adjust the frequency of the base resonance signal to the second frequency.
- [C8] (original) The ultrasonic dental scaler of claim 4, further comprising:
a programmable logic control device for adjusting the frequency of the base resonance signal.
- [C9] (original) An ultrasonic dental scaler comprising:
a dental generator unit comprising:
circuitry for producing a base resonance signal; and
a first potentiometer for adjusting a power level to the circuitry;
and
a footswitch connectable to the dental generator unit, wherein the footswitch, when engaged with the dental generator unit, selectively sends power to the dental generator unit, wherein the footswitch enables operation of the first potentiometer
- [C10] (original) The ultrasonic dental scaler of claim 9, further comprising:
a second potentiometer within the footswitch;
wherein the first potentiometer is disabled when the footswitch is connected to the dental generator unit.
- [C11] (original) The ultrasonic dental scaler of claim 9, wherein the footswitch comprises a pair of wires such that when the footswitch is engaged with the

Appl. No. 10/065,274
Response dated 2005-03-14

dental generator unit, the first potentiometer adjusts the power level to the circuitry.

[C12] (currently amended) ~~An footswitch for use with an~~ ultrasonic dental scaler comprising:

a footswitch comprising circuitry for sending power to the ultrasonic dental scaler; and

a footswitch connector coupled between the footswitch and the ultrasonic dental scaler, wherein the footswitch connector connects ~~the~~ circuitry in the ultrasonic dental scaler to a first potentiometer.

[C13] (original) The footswitch of claim 12, wherein the first potentiometer is within the ultrasonic dental scaler.

[C14] (original) The footswitch of claim 12, wherein the first potentiometer is within the footswitch.

[C15] (currently amended) ~~An footswitch for use with an~~ ultrasonic dental scaler comprising:

a footswitch comprising:

circuitry for sending power to the ultrasonic dental scaler; and

a first potentiometer;

a footswitch connector coupled between the footswitch and the ultrasonic dental scaler, wherein the footswitch connector connects ~~the~~ circuitry in the ultrasonic dental scaler to a first potentiometer in the footswitch; and

a second potentiometer;

wherein ~~a~~ the second potentiometer ~~in the circuitry~~ is disabled when the footswitch is connected to the ultrasonic dental unit.

[C16] (withdrawn - currently amended) A method comprising:

Appl. No. 10/065,274
Response dated 2005-03-14

pairing a handpiece, which operates at a resonant frequency with a removable handpiece connector as a package, wherein the handpiece connector comprises a passive circuit element to adjust a frequency of a base resonance signal to a second frequency matching the resonant frequency of the handpiece;

taking an order from a customer for an ultrasonic dental scaler, the order comprising a first request for a handpiece, wherein the handpiece operates at the resonant frequency; and

sending the package with a dental generator unit comprising circuitry for producing the base resonance signal to the customer.

[C17] (withdrawn) The method of claim 16, further comprising:

receiving a second request for a footswitch, wherein the second request specifies either a power level control footswitch or an on/off footswitch; and

sending the requested footswitch to the customer.

[C18] (withdrawn - currently amended) The method of claim 17, further comprising:

pairing a second handpiece, which operates at a third resonant frequency with a second removable handpiece connector as a second package, wherein the second handpiece connector comprises a passive circuit element to adjust the frequency of the base resonance signal to a fourth frequency matching the third resonant frequency of the second handpiece;

receiving a third request for the second handpiece; and

sending the second package to the customer.

[C19] (withdrawn - currently amended) An ultrasonic dental scaler inventory with interchangeable handpieces and footswitches, comprising:

Appl. No. 10/065,274
Response dated 2005-03-14

a plurality of essentially identical generator units comprising circuitry for producing a base resonance signal and a first potentiometer for adjusting the power level of the resonance signal;

a plurality of interchangeable handpieces and removable handpiece connectors including at least two different sets operable at different resonant frequencies, wherein each handpiece connector includes passive circuitry elements for matching the base resonance signal to the resonant frequency of the handpiece; and

first and second footswitches sets including on/off circuitry, wherein the first footswitch set enables the first potentiometer and the second footswitch set disables the first potentiometer and enables a second potentiometer in the second footswitch.